

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-58 (cancelled)

59 (currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising, in operable linkage:

(a) a fusion gene comprising a first selectable gene and an amplifiable second selectable gene; (b) a selected sequence encoding a desired product; and (c) a promoter, wherein the first selectable gene is not amplifiable.

60 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the amplifiable second selectable gene is selected from the group of consisting of the gene encoding dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) and the gene encoding glutamine synthetase.

61 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 60, wherein the amplifiable second selectable gene is the gene encoding DHFR.

62 (cancelled)

63 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 62, wherein the first selectable gene of the fusion gene is selectable independent of the amplifiable second selectable gene.

64 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the first selectable gene is an antibiotic resistance gene.

65 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 64, wherein the first selectable gene is a gene encoding puromycin resistance.

66 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the first selectable gene encodes fusion gene comprises an antibiotic resistance gene fused to a and the amplifiable second selectable gene encodes[[ing]] DHFR.

67 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the fusion gene is positioned within an intron between the promoter and the selected sequence, the intron defined by a 5' splice donor site and a 3' splice acceptor site.

68 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 67, wherein the intron provides a splicing efficiency of between 80% and 99%.

69 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 68, wherein the intron provides a splicing efficiency of at least 95%.

70 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 67, wherein the fusion gene and selected sequence are operably linked to the promoter.

71 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 67, further comprising an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) positioned between the selected sequence and the fusion gene.

72 (currently amended): A polynucleotide comprising: a first transcription unit comprising a first promoter, a first selected sequence encoding a desired gene product positioned 3' to the promoter, and a fusion gene positioned 3' to the promoter, wherein the fusion gene comprises a first selectable gene and an amplifiable second selectable gene, wherein the first selected sequence is operably linked to the fusion gene and the first promoter; and a second transcriptional unit comprising a second promoter and a second selected sequence encoding a desired product, wherein the second selected sequence is operably linked to the second promoter, and wherein the first selectable gene is not amplifiable.

73 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 72, further comprising a first intron positioned between the first promoter and the first selected sequence, and a second intron positioned between the second promoter and the second selected sequence, wherein each of the first and the second introns is defined by a 5' splice donor site and a 3' splice acceptor site providing a splicing efficiency of at least 95%.

74 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 72, wherein the first and second promoters are the same type of promoter.

75 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 74, wherein the first and second promoters are from SV40.

76 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 74, wherein the first and second promoters are from cytomegalovirus (CMV).

77 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 72, wherein at least one of the promoters is inducible.

78 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 77, wherein each of the promoters is inducible.

79 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 74, wherein the promoter is the human cytomegalovirus CMV immediate early (CMV)-promoter.

80 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the selected sequence encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of cytokines, lymphokines, enzymes, antibodies, and receptors.

81 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 80, wherein the selected sequence encodes a protein selected from the group consisting of neuronotrophin-3, deoxyribonuclease, vascular endothelial growth factor, immunoglobulin and Her2 receptor.

82 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 72, wherein the first selected sequence encodes an immunoglobulin heavy chain and the second selected sequence encodes an immunoglobulin light chain.

83 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 72, wherein the first selected sequence encodes one polypeptide chain of a multichain receptor, and the second selected sequence encodes a second polypeptide chain of the receptor.

84 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 59 that replicates in a eukaryotic host cell.

85 (original): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 59.

86 (original): The host cell of claim 85, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

87 (original): The host cell of claim 86 wherein the mammalian cell is a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

88 (currently amended): The host cell of claim 87, wherein the amplifiable second selectable gene is the gene encoding DHFR, the first selectable gene is a gene encoding puromycin resistance, and the CHO cell has a DHFR- phenotype.

89 (original): The host cell of claim 86, wherein the desired product is selected from the group consisting of neuronotrophin-3, deoxyribonuclease, vascular endothelial growth factor, immunoglobulin and Her2 receptor.

90 (original): A kit comprising a container containing the polynucleotide of claim 59.

91 (withdrawn): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 59 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

92 (withdrawn): The method of claim 91 wherein the desired product is recovered from the culture medium.

93 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 72 that replicates in a eukaryotic host cell.

94 (original): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 72.

95 (original): The host cell of claim 94, wherein the cell is a mammalian cell.

96 (original): The host cell of claim 95 wherein the mammalian cell is a Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) cell.

97 (currently amended): The host cell of claim 96, wherein the amplifiable second selectable gene is the gene encoding DHFR, the first selectable gene is a gene encoding puromycin resistance, and the CHO cell has a DHFR- phenotype.

98 (original): The host cell of claim 95, wherein the desired product is selected from the group consisting of neuronotrophin-3, deoxyribonuclease, vascular endothelial growth factor, immunoglobulin and Her2 receptor.

99 (original): A kit comprising a container containing the polynucleotide of claim 72.

100 (withdrawn): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 72 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

101 (withdrawn): The method of claim 100 wherein the desired product is recovered from the culture medium.

102 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 75, wherein the first selected gene encodes a heavy chain of an anti-HER2 receptor antibody and the second selected gene encodes a light chain of an anti-HER2 receptor antibody.

103 (cancelled)

104 (original): The polynucleotide of claim 102, wherein the anti-HER2 receptor antibody is 2C4.

105 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the first selectable gene is a fluorescent protein gene.

106 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein ~~the fusion gene comprises a~~ the first selectable gene encodes ~~puromycin resistance fused to a~~ and the amplifiable second gene encodes DHFR.

107 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 106, wherein the gene encoding puromycin resistance is 5' to the gene encoding DHFR.

108 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein ~~the fusion gene comprises a~~ the first selectable gene encodes a fluorescent protein gene fused to and the amplifiable second selectable gene a ~~gene encodes~~ DHFR.

109 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 72, wherein ~~the fusion gene comprises a~~ first selectable gene encodes ~~puromycin resistance fused to a~~ and the amplifiable second gene encodes DHFR.

110 (previously presented): The polynucleotide of claim 109, wherein the gene encoding puromycin resistance is 5' to the gene encoding DHFR.

111 (previously presented): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 107.

112 (withdrawn): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 107 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

113 (previously presented): A host cell comprising the polynucleotide of claim 110.

114 (withdrawn): A method of producing a desired product comprising introducing the polynucleotide of claim 110 into a suitable eukaryotic cell, culturing the resultant eukaryotic cell under conditions so as to select and amplify the fusion gene and selected gene encoding the desired product, expressing the desired product, and recovering the desired product.

115 (currently amended): The polynucleotide of claim 59, wherein the selected sequence is operably linked to the amplifiable second selectable gene and to the promoter.

116 (previously presented) The polynucleotide of claim 59, further comprising a second selected sequence encoding a second desired product, operably linked to a second promoter.